

U.S.S.N. 09/352,093
Group Art Unit 1741
HSE-020RCE

In the Claims

Please amend claim 58 and 61 as follows:

58. (Amended) The process of claim 53, further comprising the step of disposing the compression stage and the electricity generation stage all on a single shaft.

E1
E2

61. (Amended) The system of claim 59, further comprising the step of providing the compressor, electricity generator and turbine all on a single shaft.

REMARKS

Claims 53-64 are pending in the Application. The Examiner indicated in the Office Action mailed December 6, 2002 that claims 53-57, 59, 60 and 62-64 were allowable. The Examiner also rejected claims 58 and 61 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 2, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that the limitation "all on the same shaft" had an insufficient antecedent basis. Applicants have amended claims 58 and 61 as set forth above and now believe the claims to be in condition for allowance.

A draft Request for Interference without exhibits is also included for the Examiner's review. Applicants will be requesting that the Examiner declare an Interference between the present application and claims 1 and 4-8 of United States Patent No. 5,811,201, granted September 22, 1998, to Mark J. Skowronski. This application and the aforementioned Skowronski patent were involved in an Interference that was terminated in favor of Applicants by a request for entry of adverse judgment by Skowronski before Applicants' motion to add claims 1 and 4-8 of the Skowronski patent to the Interference could be ruled upon by the Board. Applicants will call the Examiner to discuss the proposed Interference within the next couple of weeks.

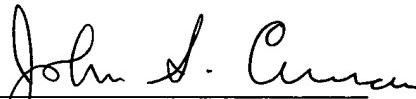
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants contend that claims 53-64 presently pending in the Application are patentable and in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request the allowance of the Application. We invite the Examiner to call the undersigned at (617) 227-7400 if the Examiner deems there are any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE"

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 58 and 61 as follows:

58. (Amended) The process of claim 53, further comprising the step of disposing the compression stage and the electricity generation stage all on a single the same shaft.

61. (Amended) The system of claim 59, further comprising the step of providing the compressor, electricity generator and turbine all on a single the same shaft.